

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01412 161127Z

46

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 AID-05 EB-07

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 CEA-01 COME-00 /123 W

----- 035178

R 161002Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8067

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

RUEHCR /AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS 0006

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 1412

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GB, RP

SUBJ: BONGO'S RETURN

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. GOG PRESIDENT BONGO RETURNED TO LIBREVILLE MORNING JULY 16 FOLLOWING TWO-WEEK TRIP WHICH INCLUDED ATTENDANCE AT OAU SUMMIT AND STATE VISIT TO PHILIPPINES (REPORTED MANILA 10124).

2. IN AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT PROVIDED FOLLOWING BRIEF ACCOUNT OF HIS TRAVELS:

(A) OAU SUMMIT -- BONGO DEFENDED RESULTS OF SESSION, WHILE REGRETTING ABSENCE OF NUMBER OF FELLOW CHIEFS OF STATE. SUMMIT, HE INSISTED, HAD SATISFACTORILY DISPOSED OF ALL ITEMS ON ITS AGENDA, INCLUDING SENSITIVE SAHARAN QUESTION WHICH WAS DEFERRED TO SPECIAL SUMMIT AS RESULT OF GABONESE PROPOSAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LIBREV 01412 161127Z

TO THIS EFFECT. PRESIDENT MADE ONLY PASSING REFERENCE TO

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAELI RAID AT ENTEBBE, NOTING SIMPLY THAT OAU HAD "REGRETTEED" ISRAELI ACTION.

(B) COLOMBO STOP -- BONGO MENTIONED THAT HE HAD MADE BRIEF STOP AT COLOMBO FOLLOWING VISIT TO COMOROS BUT GAVE NO DETAILS ON DISCUSSIONS THERE. HE NOTED THAT TIMING OF NAM SUMMIT CONFLICTS WITH GABONESE NATIONAL DAY (AUGUST 17), THUS PRECLUDING HIS PERSONAL ATTENDANCE, AND PROMISED THAT GOG WOULD BE APPROPRIATELY REPRESENTED.

(C) PHILIPPINE VISIT -- PRESIDENT ASSURED HIS AUDIENCE THAT STATE VISIT TO PHILLIPPINES, "LIKE ALL MY TRAVELS", WAS NOT MATTER OF TOURISM BUT VERY MUCH AN AFFAIR OF STATE. HE PRAISED WARMTH OF WELCOME EXTENDED BY PRESIDENT AND MRS. MARCOS, WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED LARGELY TO FACT THAT HE WAS FIRST AFRICAN CHIEF OF STATE TO VISIT MANILA. PRESIDENT THEN TURNED TO CONCRETE BENEFITS OF VISIT, CLIMING GOP CREDIT OF DOLS 10 MILLION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRUCTION IN FOUR PROVINCIAL CAPITALS; GOP AGREEMENT TO ASSIST IN ESTABLISHING FOUR TRAINING CENTERS FOR PARA-MEDICAL PERSONNEL; AND GOP WILLINGNESS TO RECRUIT TECHNICIANS IN VARIOUS SPECIALITIES FOR WORK IN GABON. PRESIDENT CLOSED WITH REFERENCE TO HIS CONCERN FOR WELFARE OF FILIPINO MUSLIMS, EMPHASIZING HIS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS COULD MEET IN MANILA TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES TRUTH ABOUT CHARGES OF "GENOCIDE" WHICH HAVE BEEN LEVELED AGAINST GOP.

END UNCLASSIFIED BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

3. COMMENT: BONGO'S SINGULARLY ROSY ACCOUNT OF OAU SUMMIT APPEARS HARD TO RECONCILE WITH MEASURABLE RESULTS OF SESSION, BUT AS HOST FOR NEXT YEAR (AND PRESUMABLY NEXT CHAIRMAN) HE CLEARLY HAS SPECIAL INTEREST IN BUILDING UP ORGANIZATION'S IMPORTANCE AND PRESITIGE. HIS VERY MODERATE LANGUAGE IN REFERRING TO RESOLUTION "REGRETTING" RATHER THAN "CONDEMNING" ISRAELI ACTION SUGGESTS THAT BONGO MAY BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT ACTION TAKEN BY OAU IN HEAT OF THE MOMENT, BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER HE WILL SHOW ANY INTEREST IN SPEAKING OUT MORE FORCEFULLY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LIBREV 01412 161127Z

ON THIS ISSUE.STEIGMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, PRESS CONFERENCES, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LIBREV01412
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760274-1066
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760751/aaaabsns.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BONGO'S RETURN BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: PFOR, GB, RP, OAU, (BONGO, ALBERT BERNARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006